

AGENDA



Thursday, February 14, 2008

Public Works

Item No. 43

RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Section 12-4-64(D) of the City Code to establish a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour on certain streets bounded by West Oltorf Street to the north, West Ben White Boulevard Service Road to the south, South 1st Street to the east, and South Congress Avenue to the west.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$7,050 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Public Works Department for installation of necessary signs.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Richard Kroger 974-7219, Thomas Kennerly 974-7246, Anthony Alvarado 974-7287, Robin Field 974-7064.

Texas Transportation Code Section 545.356 allows a city to set a speed limit lower than 30 miles per hour, but not less than 25 miles per hour, on a highway if:

- the highway is not an officially designated or marked highway or road in the state highway system;
- the highway is 35 feet or less in width;
- vehicular parking is not prohibited on one or both sides of the street; and
- the highway has less than four lanes used for vehicular travel, and
- the Council finds that the previous prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe.

The City of Austin Public Works Department recommends the 25 mile per hour speed limit for certain streets in the area bounded by W. Oltorf Street to the north, W. Ben White Boulevard Service Road to the south, S. 1st Street to the east, and S. Congress Avenue to the west. The lower speed limit will reduce the potential for vehicle-pedestrian accidents. Most of the streets within the area are eligible for a 25-mile per hour speed limit. The exceptions are Alpine Circle from Alpine Road (West) to the end of Alpine Circle, Cumberland Road from 1st Street (South) to Congress Avenue (South), Lightsey Road from 1st Street (South) to Congress Avenue (South), Pickle Road from Congress Avenue (South) to the end of Pickle Road, because these streets are wider than 35 feet. They are not included in the recommended Code changes. The ordinance includes a finding that the previous prima facie speed limit is unreasonable or unsafe, in accordance with the statute.

Staff recommends that Section 12-4-64(D) be amended to add the following streets to the list of streets with a maximum speed limit of 25 miles per hour.

Alpine Road (West) from 1st Street (South) to Congress Avenue (South).
 Ben Howell Drive from Wilson Street to Edens Drive.
 Brewster Street from Brinwood Avenue to Gem Circle.
 Brinwood Avenue from El Paso Street to Coleman Street.
 Cherry Hill Drive from Wilson Street to the end of Cherry Hill Drive.
 Coleman Street from Brinwood Avenue to Congress Avenue (South).
 Dunlap Street from Reyna Street to Congress Avenue (South).

Durwood Street from Oltorf Street (West) to the end of Durwood Street.
Edens Drive from Ben Howell Drive to Cumberland Road.
El Paso Street from 1st Street (South) to the end of El Paso Street.
Euclid Avenue from Oltorf Street (West) to Cumberland Road.
Fontana Drive from Wilson Street to South Park Drive.
Forest Avenue from Oltorf Street (West) to Euclid Avenue.
Fort Mc Gruder Lane from 1st Street (South) to Reyna Street.
Frederick Street from Congress Avenue (South) to the end of Frederick Street.
Gem Circle from Brewster Street to the end of Gem Circle.
Hardeman Street from El Paso Street to Gem Circle.
Havana Street from Powell Circle (north intersection) to Congress Avenue (South).
Havana Street from Powell Circle (south intersection) to 1st Street (South).
Krebs Lane from 1st Street (South) to Wilson Street.
Krebs Lane from Reyna Street to Congress Avenue (South).
La Mesa Drive from Cumberland Road to El Paso Street.
La Vista Street from Brinwood Avenue to Congress Avenue (South).
Lessin Lane from Congress Avenue (South) to the end of Lessin Lane.
Post Road Drive from 1st Street (South) to Wilson Street.
Powell Circle from 1st Street (South) to Lightsey Road.
Reyna Street from Krebs Lane to Ben White Boulevard (West) Service Road.
Sacramento Drive from 1st Street (South) to Wilson Street.
South Park Drive from 1st Street (South) to Fontana Drive.
Stacy Lane from El Paso Street to the end of Stacy Lane.
Tallison Terrace from Alpine Road (West) to the end of Tallison Terrace.
Wadford Street from Krebs Lane to the end of Wadford Street.
Wilson Street from Alpine Road (West) to Fort Mc Gruder Lane.
Wilson Street from Powell Circle to the end of Wilson Street.
Wilson Street from Oltorf Street (West) to El Paso Street.